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# City of SeaTac Police Department

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## Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001 Annual Report on Police Performance



Created for the City of SeaTac by:

The King County Sheriff's Office  
Research, Planning & Information Services Unit  
516 Third Avenue, KCC-SO-0100  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Accessible formats are available upon request.**

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## Letter from Chief S. Somers

May, 2002



Dear citizens, businesses and visitors of SeaTac,

On behalf of the men and women of SeaTac Police Services, and the King County Sheriff's Office, let me thank you for the privilege of serving you this past year. Delivering high quality, professional police services today is more challenging than ever before. Like most of you have experienced, our world has become increasingly complex. This Service

Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) Report is designed to help us make better sense of the crime and disorder problems we face and our effectiveness in dealing with them.

SeaTac Police Services' goals are to: (1) reduce crime and the fear of crime, (2) provide responsive and cost effective services, (3) be prepared to manage critical incidents, and (4) improve traffic safety. We strive to accomplish these goals by employing the following strategies.

### ***Crime Prevention***

Our first priority is to do all we can to prevent the next crime from occurring. We strive to accomplish this through community education and collaboration. Programs such as Neighborhood Crime Watch, Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing, Citizens Academies and the SeaTac Owners and Managers Pride in Properties (STOMPP) are examples of police-community collaboration. SeaTac has provided two School Resource Officers to serve its schools and actively works with the business community to make SeaTac a safe place to conduct business. Additionally, SeaTac has been exploring ways of preventing crime through better design, lighting and other Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) approaches. SeaTac was also the proud sponsor of the 2001 International Crime Free Conference.

### ***Apprehension of Offenders***

Should our efforts to prevent crime fail, we want to do everything within our power to hold those who choose to commit crimes accountable. This is especially true of repeat offenders and career criminals who disproportionately victimize our community. The use of high quality crime analysis and technology has significantly improved our ability to identify, monitor, apprehend and prosecute repeat offenders.

### ***Fostering a Sense of Security***

Our perception of safety in our community - for our families and for ourselves - is often formed by what we see on the nightly news. Some feel alone and helpless to address what, at times, seems like insurmountable community problems. Fear leads to abandonment of areas that seem unsafe which, in turn, encourages undesirable activities and crime to flourish. The same crime information that increases our officers' effectiveness is available to you through reports like this. Neighbors working together in prevention efforts have produced remarkable improvement in many neighborhoods. One can hope not to be a crime victim (passive) or one can choose not to be a crime victim (active).

### ***Being Responsive and Cost-Effective***

We strive to be good stewards of your trust and tax dollars. Rapid response to in-progress crimes, establishment of performance measures, quick identification of crime and disorder patterns, and community involvement are all efforts designed to meet your expectations.

Graduates from our Citizens Academy have joined with us to improve communication with and responsiveness to crime victims. These volunteers attempt to contact every crime victim to find out if they have additional information about their crime, inform them of the status of their case, encourage participation in crime prevention programs and determine their satisfaction with how police responded to their incident.

#### ***Improve Capacity to Manage Critical Incidents***

SeaTac has been a leader in improving ways police respond to critical incidents such as school shootings and pipeline safety. Our goal is to prevent critical incidents from occurring in the first place. In the unlikely event a critical incident does occur, our goal is to quickly intervene, stabilize the incident and prevent further harm from occurring.

#### ***Improve Traffic Safety***

SeaTac Police have worked hard to reduce deaths, injuries and property damage associated with traffic accidents. We have studied where, when and how accidents occur with other city departments and agencies, and are working to reduce accidents through a variety of education, enforcement and engineering efforts. The SeaTac City Council recently enhanced our efforts by passing an ordinance that requires the impounding of vehicles driven by persons whose license has been suspended (our poorest drivers).

#### ***Conclusion***

This report clearly shows some **good news** regarding crime and disorder in SeaTac. Since 1997, the crime rate dropped from 92.3 to 71.3 per 1,000 residents. Similar reductions have occurred in violent crimes, property crimes, domestic violence and traffic collisions. There are many reasons for these reductions. Some may be attributed to socioeconomic factors outside police control. Some are a result of the strategies and collaborative efforts listed above. We urge you to continue to educate yourselves and become involved in your neighborhoods to insure a safe, quality place in which to live, raise families, worship, conduct business, attend school and visit.

Please feel free to contact us if we can be of service to you:

Crime Prevention Officer, D. Reynolds, (206) 439-4711  
School Resource Officers, Tyee High School (206) 433-2341 &  
Chinook Middle School (206) 433-2231  
Police Communications/Dispatch (9-1-1) Center business line, (206) 296-3311  
Community Service Officer, E. Kruger, (206) 439-4710  
Administrative Sergeant, T. Flanagan, (206) 439-4713  
Police Chief, S. Somers, (206) 439-4712

Thank you again for allowing us to serve you.

Sincerely,

S. A. Somers  
Chief of Police

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Executive Summary

#### Mission

The mission of the SeaTac Police Department is to:

**Enhance the quality of life in SeaTac by working together with the community to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and by maintaining a safe and wholesome community for its citizens and numerous guests. This is achievable with the support of the City Council, City Manager, and by working in cooperation with the citizens of SeaTac and the City's other municipal departments.**

#### Goals & Objectives

In order to realize their mission, the SeaTac Police Department has adopted the following goals and objectives:

Goal: Reduce crime and the fear of crime.

- Objective: Use information for crime analysis.
- Objective: Apprehend offenders.
- Objective: Prevent crime.
- Objective: Improve citizens' feeling of security.

Goal: Provide high-quality, cost-effective, and accountable services to the City of SeaTac, WA.

- Objective: Provide responsive services to citizens.
- Objective: Provide cost-effective services to citizens.

The following report contains information on the service efforts and accomplishments of the City of SeaTac Police Department to support its Mission, Goals and Objectives.

#### Report Highlights

As stated in Chief Somers's letter (pages 2 and 3), the highlights of the year 2001 were:

- Reduced crime rate (page 6)
- Reduced rape and aggravated assaults (page 7)
- Reduced traffic collisions (page 11)

## **Goal: Reduce Crime and the Fear of Crime**

The goal to reduce crime and the fear of crime is a standard goal of law enforcement agencies worldwide. Efforts to support this goal vary with variations in laws, limitations and liabilities of law enforcement agencies, community preferences, socio-economic factors and available resources.

The objectives chosen to provide direction for SeaTac's police department to support this goal are:

- use information for crime analysis,
- apprehend offenders,
- prevent crime, and
- improve citizens' feeling of security.

The measures on the following pages report the efforts and accomplishments of SeaTac's police department as reflected in the amount of crime (crime rates and statistics), crime incident case clearance rates, adult and juvenile arrest and charge statistics, workload of crime prevention efforts and citizen communications activities.

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

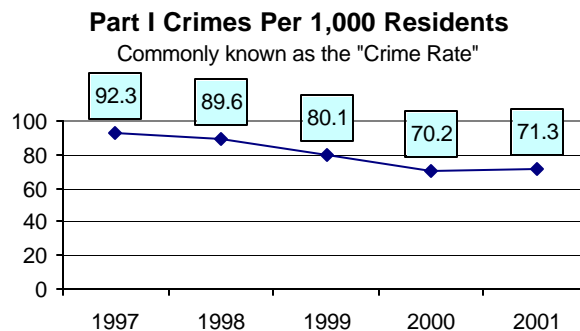
### Objective: Use Information for Crime Analysis

#### The "Crime Rate"

##### Total Part I Crimes

"Part I Crimes" is a category of crimes established by the U. S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that consists of murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle and arson. Part I Crimes compared to the population are known as the "Crime Index" or "Crime Rate."

"Part II Crimes" consist of all other crimes not included in the Part I Crimes category. Part II crimes vary due to differences in local laws.



##### National Crime Rate

The FBI calculates and publishes the national crime rate based on the information sent to them by participating agencies. This information is usually released in the fourth quarter of the following year. Therefore, the most recent data available as of this report is the crime rate for 2000 (published in October, 2001).

##### **U. S. National Crime Rate (2000)**

**41.6**

# City of SeaTac Police

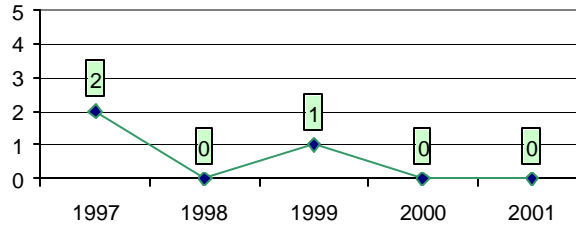
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Crimes Against Persons

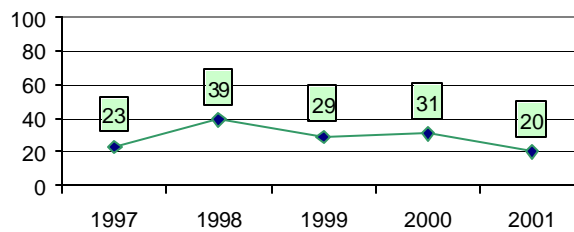
#### Part I Crimes Against Persons

Part I Crimes include crimes categorized as “violent crimes” or “crimes against persons.” The following are SeaTac’s Part I Crimes Against Persons for the past five years.

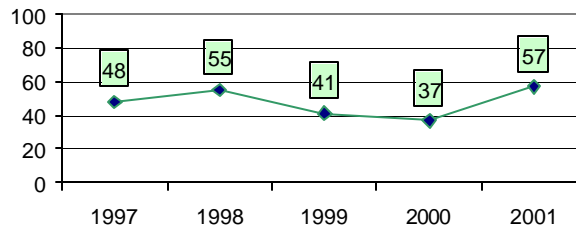
#### **Murder**



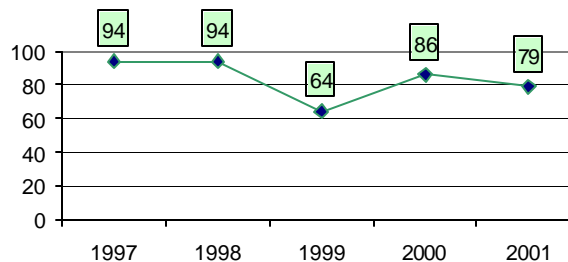
#### **Rape**



#### **Robbery**



#### **Aggravated Assault**





# City of SeaTac Police

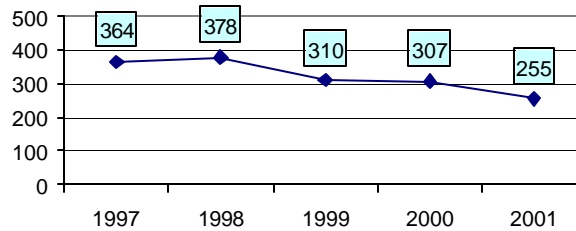
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Crimes Against Property

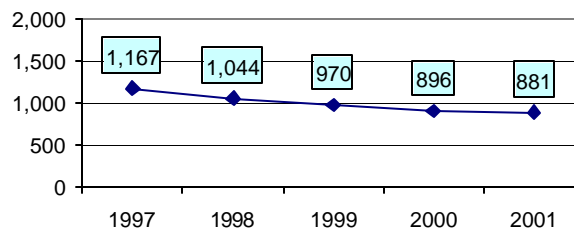
#### Part I Crimes Against Property

The second group of crimes that make up the Part I Crimes are known as “non-violent crimes” or “crimes against property” or “property crimes.” The following are SeaTac's Part I Crimes Against Property for the last five years.

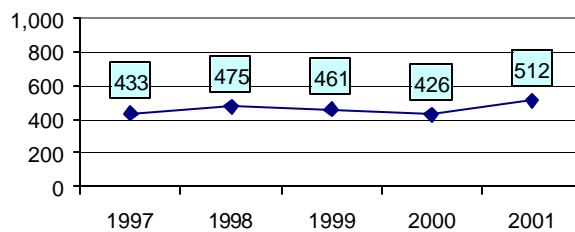
#### **Burglary**



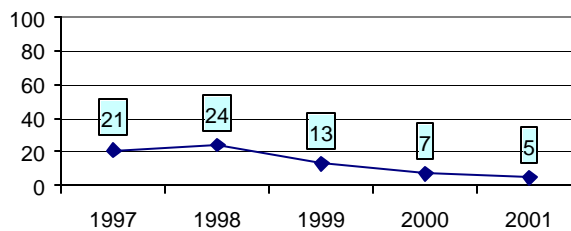
#### **Larceny**



#### **Vehicle Theft**



#### **Arson**



# City of SeaTac Police

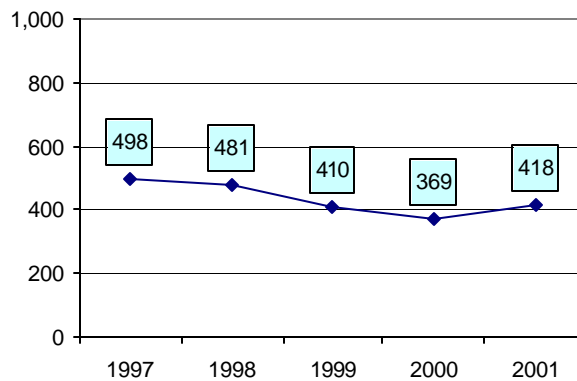
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Domestic Violence Crimes

In Washington State "Domestic Violence Crime" refers to any crime which is committed by a spouse, former spouse, person related by blood or marriage, persons who have a child in common, former/current roommates, persons who have or had a dating relationship, and/or persons related to the suspect by the parent-child (biological or legal) relationship. In some cases, the age of the victim or suspect may determine whether or not the legal definition above is met.

"Domestic Violence Incidents" includes all documented police activity related to domestic violence incidents which includes all case reports and citations as well as possibly containing other related activity such as Field Interview Reports (FIR) and assistance to other agencies.

**Total Domestic Violence Incidents**



*"The events of September 11<sup>th</sup> and the significant downturn in the economy has clearly contributed to the increase of domestic violence incidents in SeaTac."*

*~ Chief S. Somers, SeaTac Police Department*

The ten most frequently occurring types of domestic violence crimes in SeaTac in 2001 were:

<u>Crime</u>	<u>Reported Incidents</u>
Assault Fourth Degree, (misdemeanor)	167
Violation of Court Orders (misdemeanor)	50
Assaults (felony)*	40
Other, miscellaneous Part II crimes	28
Vandalism	22
Family/Juvenile offenses	21
Violation of Court Orders (felony)	16
Residential Burglaries	9
Kidnapping	3
Stolen Property	2

\* This number does not include homicides that would be reported separately. There were no domestic violence related homicides in SeaTac in 2001.

# City of SeaTac Police

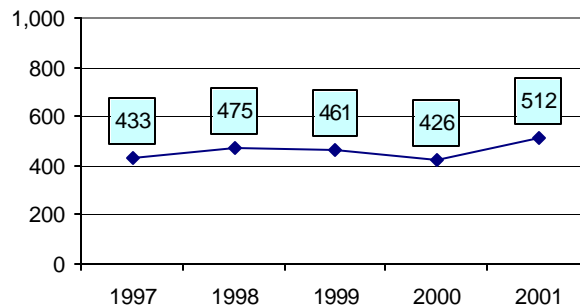
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Automobile/Vehicle Related Crimes

#### Vehicle Thefts

Vehicle Thefts includes thefts of all vehicles including trucks, buses, boats, recreational vehicles and other non-licensed off-road vehicles.

**Vehicle Theft**

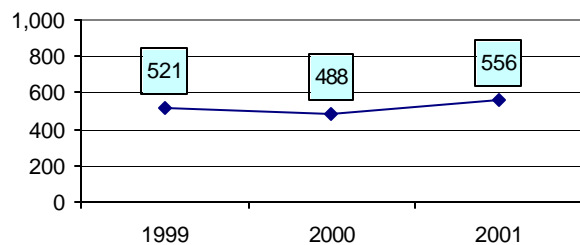


#### Thefts from Vehicles and Attempted Thefts

Thefts From Vehicles and Attempted Thefts includes thefts of property **from** a vehicle including: any part or accessory item attached to the vehicle (gasoline, tires, tape decks, antennas, etc.), and personal property left in a vehicle (purses, gifts, tools), as well as vehicle prowls (no property successfully taken).

**Thefts from Vehicles and Attempted Thefts ("Prowls")**

Data unavailable prior to 1999



*"The increase in auto theft and thefts from autos appear to be linked to increased methamphetamine use in south King County."*

*~ Chief S. Somers, SeaTac Police Department*

# City of SeaTac Police

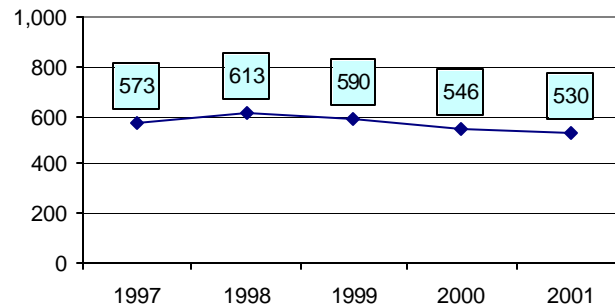
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Traffic Incident Information

#### Traffic Report Data

Collision information includes reports for all injury, non-injury and fatality vehicle collisions (including hit and run incidents) taken by the City of SeaTac Police Department.

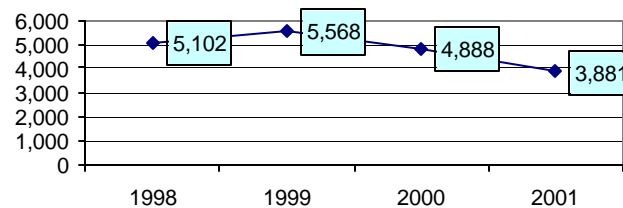
#### Collisions



Citation and Notice of Infraction information includes reports of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) violations, Moving/Hazardous violations (such as all accidents, speeding and reckless driving), and Non-moving Compliance violations (such as defective equipment and parking violations).

#### Traffic Citations and Notices of Infraction(s)

Data unavailable prior to 1998

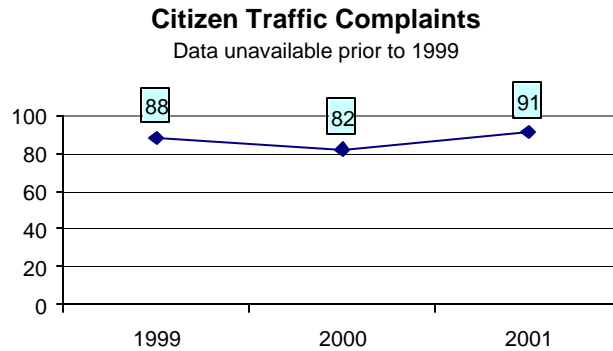


# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### **Traffic Report Data, continued**

Citizen Traffic Complaints includes all reports citizens make regarding chronic traffic violations and requests for traffic enforcement. These complaints are then distributed to SeaTac's police officers to provide follow-up enforcement and/or a problem solving response (see Problem Solving Projects on page 15-16).



# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

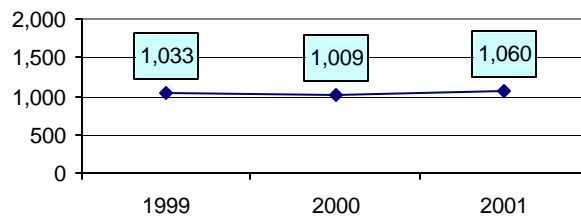
### Objective: Apprehend Offenders

#### Cases Closed "Cleared by Arrest"

The "cleared" cases below are cases known as "cleared by arrest." Although not every case suspect is "arrested," each suspect in these cases has been recommended for criminal charges that may eventually result in an arrest or another form of punitive action (such as a citation). Cases "cleared by arrest" are sent to the King County Prosecutor's office - with the officer or detective's recommendation to file criminal charges. A prosecuting attorney is solely responsible for the decision to formally file charges and prosecute defendants.

#### Part I & II Cases Closed 'Cleared By Arrest'

Estimate based on Case Disposition Codes  
Comparable data unavailable prior to 1999

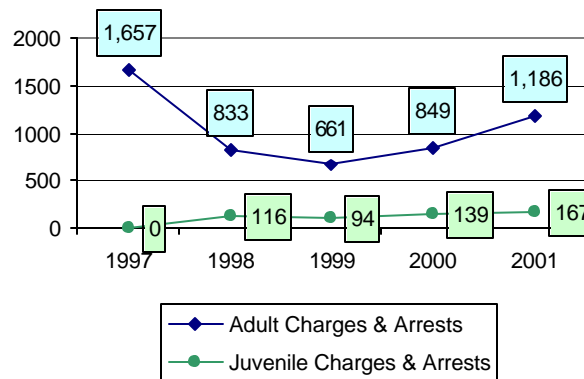


#### Charges and Arrests

Of all the cases "cleared by arrest" (see above), the following are the charges & arrests by adult/juvenile status. (Note: Numbers will differ from the number of cases "cleared by arrest" due to differences in reporting standards.)

#### Adult & Juvenile Charges & Arrests

Juvenile data unavailable prior to 1998



# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Objective: Prevent Crime

#### Crime Prevention Efforts

##### Neighborhood Block Watch

The City of SeaTac had fifty Neighborhood Block Watch groups representing over 1,000 homes in the year 2001. Joining a Neighborhood Block Watch is one of the most effective and least costly ways homeowners can prevent crime and reduce fear in their neighborhoods. Members learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other, and report suspicious activity to 9-1-1.

##### Crime Free Multi-Housing and STOMPP

Citizens residing in apartment communities benefit from programs such as Crime Free Multi-Housing and SeaTac Owners and Managers Pride in Properties (STOMPP). These communities are usually more mobile and experience higher rates of crime. It is imperative that property owners and managers take a leadership role in reducing the opportunity for crime to occur and that residents work with each other to prevent crime.

##### Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

SeaTac Police worked with other city departments to develop ways to prevent crime from occurring at locations through design, the use of appropriate lighting, use of natural surveillance, etc. These types of approaches are called Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED, pronounced SEP-ted). Officers specially trained in CPTED regularly attended the Development Review Committee (DRC) meetings with other city departments to assist builders with their planning process. CPTED is vitally important to SeaTac's future with the Sound Transit Light Rail, parking facilities and other types of construction being planned.

##### Other

Other crime prevention activities conducted in 2001 were:

- Registered sites for the National Night Out Against Crime
- 2 Crime Free Multi-Housing Courses at Highline Community College for landlords, managers and owners
- 6 CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) classes

##### More Information

For more information about crime prevention activities, please contact Officer D. Reynolds at (206) 429-4711.

*Officer D. Reynolds is the Washington State Crime Prevention Association's Region 2 (King and Snohomish Counties) Director.*

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Problem Solving Projects/Programs

As responsible leaders and stewards, we are called to examine crime and disorder strategically. Strategic analysis and planning focuses on long term results. The elements that create crime and disorder are illustrated in the diagram below known as the "crime triangle":



All three elements (suspect(s), victim(s) and location(s)) must be present for a crime/disorder to occur. Conversely, if any one of the elements necessary to create crime/disorder is removed, that side of the triangle "collapses" and the crime/disorder is eliminated. (For example, as in the game "Clue" if there is a criminal (suspect) in a dark alley (location) there is no crime until another person or their property (victim) is present as well.) The following problem solving strategies were used to help accomplish our goal "To reduce crime and the fear of crime."

#### **Suspect**

Our strategy is to focus our efforts on active repeat offenders, or career criminals. Our objective is to identify, track, monitor, and effectively deal with them. When they are caught committing any crime, we strive to aggressively prosecute them. Efforts to develop and deploy this strategy were led by detectives from our Street Crimes and Criminal Investigations Units. Additionally, the Sexual Offender Registration program is another tool used to monitor known offenders which is maintained by the King County Sheriff's Office's Records and Special Assault Units and the King County Regional Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) for the City of SeaTac Police.

#### **Victim**

Our strategy is to focus our efforts on repeat and high at risk victims. Our objective is to educate, support and empower repeat victims to break the cycle of being victimized. Currently the main categories of "pattern" victims are: domestic violence victims, visitors at hotel/motels, car rental companies, parking areas and seniors. The City of SeaTac provides excellent support services to victims of domestic violence through prosecution as well as individual and group advocacy programs. These services can be reached by calling (206) 241-9100. The SeaTac Police Services Crime Prevention Officer also offers his expertise to hotels, motels and car rental properties. Senior citizens, youth and domestic violence victims also benefit from the services of SeaTac's Community Service Officer (CSO), E. Kruger. CSOs help people through crises and complicated problems, provide referrals to community support resources, free police officers to handle crime, and bridge the gap between police and support agencies. You can reach CSO E. Kruger at (206) 439-4710.



# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### **Location**

Our strategy is to focus our efforts on repeat call and crime locations. Our objective is to reduce or eliminate the incidence of crime and disorder effectively and efficiently. Our high repeat call and crime locations are hotel/motels, large apartment complexes and parking areas. Studies have clearly shown that random patrol of areas has little if any effect on lowering crime.

Disciplined problem solving, focused on areas with high crime density, has proven effective in reducing crime.

### Accident Reduction

SeaTac Police Services together with the King County Sheriff's Office Centralized Crime Analysis Unit and SeaTac's Public Works Department analyzed where and when motor vehicle accidents were occurring in SeaTac and what factors caused or contributed to them. By collecting accident data and analyzing it, we have been able to develop strategies to lower the number of accidents, especially at high-density locations. Through engineering, education and enforcement, we hope to have continued success in lowering the number of injuries, deaths and damage from motor vehicle accidents.

### SMART

In 2001, members of the community became involved in accident reduction by hosting the SMART (Speed Monitoring Awareness Radar Trailer) radar trailer. The SMART trailer displays the vehicles speed and records the frequency and speeds of approaching vehicles to help determine the severity of problems in the area. SeaTac residents can request to have the trailer parked in front of their residence by calling Officer H. Sherwood at (206) 439-4714.

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### **Objective: Improve Citizens' Feeling of Security**

#### Public Communication and Education Efforts

##### Newsletters

Police and crime prevention related articles are sent to all SeaTac residents bimonthly in the *SeaTac Report* newsletter.

##### Community Meetings

SeaTac Police Officers participated in a large number of community meetings throughout the year 2001. Presentations were made to the Southwest Chamber, Hotel-Motel Association, public and private schools, apartment owners and managers, homeowners and a variety of other organizations. Additionally, whenever sex offenders moved into a neighborhood, appropriate information and community meetings were held to inform neighbors about any threats and what actions they can take.

##### Education

SeaTac Police Officers provided a large amount of training to the community throughout the year 2001. School Resource Officers (SROs) taught a variety of classes to students, staff and parent groups in SeaTac schools. Some of the classes they taught were personal safety, traffic safety, and conflict resolution as well as prevention of drug and alcohol abuse and drunk driving. Additionally, students with behavior problems were taken on tours of the jail and provided intensive counseling to help prevent more serious behavior from developing. Our Crime Prevention Officer devoted the majority of his time toward educating individuals and groups to avoid being crime victims. One group that is particularly vulnerable to crime is senior citizens. Seniors citizens are much more likely to be targets of fraud schemes and therefore a good deal of time is devoted to make sure SeaTac's seniors are safe.

##### Citizens Academy

SeaTac co-sponsored two Citizens Academy course in 2001. This thirteen-week course is designed to educate citizens about the operations, functions and realities of police work. It also provides an opportunity for citizens to get to know each other and find out how to contribute back to their community. Citizens interested in attending a Citizens Academy may contact the King County Sheriff's Office Southwest Precinct at (206) 296-3333.

##### Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing

SeaTac co-sponsored two Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing courses in 2001 for apartment owners, managers, employees, and real estate agents held at Highline Community College. This three-day course allows attendees to better manage their properties, improve safety and security, keep good tenants and have better long-term success with their rental properties. Anyone interested in participating in this program is encouraged to contact Officer D. Reynolds at (206) 439-4711.

**Goal: Provide High-quality, Cost-effective, and Accountable Services to the City of SeaTac, WA**

The goal "to provide high-quality, cost-effective, and accountable services" is a goal any service industry might strive for. It reflects a concern for the appropriate and effective use of community resources. Efforts to support this goal are made in partnership with elected officials and police administrators, taking into consideration problem areas, community concerns for quality of life and resources available.

The objectives chosen to provide direction for SeaTac's police department in support of this goal are:

- provide responsive services to citizens, and
- provide cost-effective services to citizens.

The measures on the following pages report the efforts and accomplishments of SeaTac's police department using traditional responsiveness measures (such as response times and complaints). Additionally, cost information is shown in ratios of cost by the population, by available revenue, by staffing and by volume of work.

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

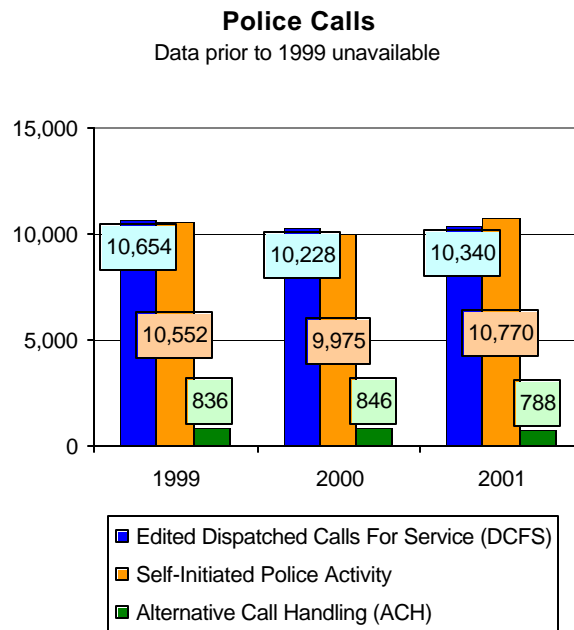
### Objective: Provide Responsive Services to Citizens

#### Response to Calls

##### Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS), Self-initiated Police Activities and Alternative Call Handling (ACH) Reports

Police engage in a variety of activities in a workday. Primarily police activity is captured in the number of "calls" responded to during a day. A "call" may be an incident called in by a citizen to the 9-1-1 center or a call may be "self initiated" by the officer responding to a crime they've witnessed or to chronic problems in a neighborhood (see Problem Solving Projects on pages 15-16). In addition to the calls responded to by officers, the Alternative Call Handling (ACH) program allows 9-1-1 center operators to take certain police reports over the phone in order to allow police officers more time to respond to citizens who need an officer present at the location of their incident.

Below are the number of Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS), Self-initiated Police Activities and Alternative Call Handling (ACH) incidents reported for the past three years.



# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Response Times to High Priority Calls

#### Response Times to High Priority Calls

##### **Call Priorities and Response Times**

When calls for police assistance are received by the Communications (9-1-1) Center, they are entered into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and given a "priority" based on the criteria described below. If the call receiver is in doubt as to the appropriate priority, the call is assigned the higher of the two priority designators in question.

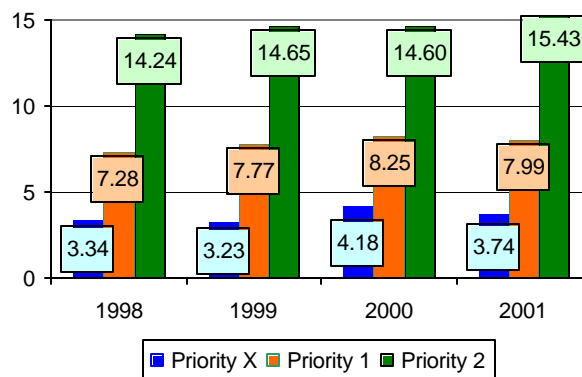
**"Priority X"** designates critical dispatches, those incidents that pose an obvious danger to the life of an officer or citizen. It is used for felony crimes in-progress where the possibility of confrontation between a victim and suspect exists. Examples include: shootings, stabbings, robberies or burglaries.

**"Priority 1"** designates immediate dispatches; those calls that require immediate police action. Examples include: silent alarms, injury traffic accidents, in-progress crimes or crimes so recent that the suspect may still be in the immediate area.

**"Priority 2"** designates prompt dispatches; those calls that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples include: verbal disturbances, audible alarms and blocking traffic accidents.

#### **Average Response Times\* to High Priority Calls in Minutes**

Data unavailable prior to 1998



\* The 9-1-1 Center for the City of SeaTac Police measures response times from the time a citizen's phone call is received to the time an officer arrives at the location of the incident.

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

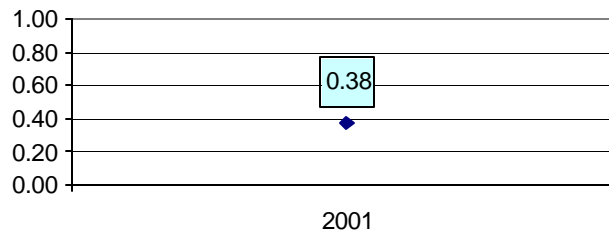
### Complaints by Citizens Against Officers

#### Complaints by Citizens Against Officers

Although citizens may have made formal complaints against officers prior to the year 2000, complaints were not tallied for reporting purposes prior to 2000. Complaint counts prior to 2000 and Self-initiated Police Activity counts prior to 1999 were not available for this report.

#### Complaints per 1,000 Police Contacts

Comparable data unavailable prior to 2001\*



	2000	2001
<b>Number of Complaints*</b>	9	7
<b>Number of Police Contacts</b> (Edited DCFS & Self-initiated Police Contacts)	20,213	21,110

\*Due to improvements in data collection techniques, year 2000 and 2001 data are not comparable.

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Objective: Provide Cost-effective Services to Citizens

#### Costs of Services

The City of SeaTac contracts with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) for police services. Among other benefits, contracting for services from a larger law enforcement agency allows for cost savings through "economies of scale." Specific economies of scale provided through the contract with KCSO include:

- Existing Mutual Aid Agreements with other law enforcement agencies in Washington State,
- A large pool of officers if back-up help is necessary,
- Coverage if your officers are away,
- Expertise of specialized units to assist officers,
- More experienced officers to select from for staffing, and
- Costs shared throughout the department keeping city costs down.

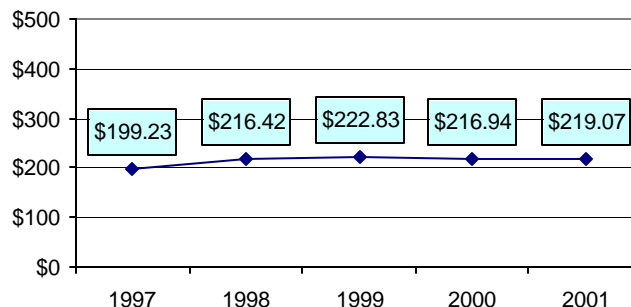
Costs for police services vary depending on a city's resources and the level and type of police services the community wants. The dollar amounts and staffing levels shown below are taken from the contracts for police services (billed financial exhibits) for the years indicated. The City of SeaTac may have had additional funds or expenditures for special projects or programs as part of the city's law enforcement budget which are **not** reflected in this report.

The following are four ways of putting the cost-to-services picture together for the City of SeaTac. (NOTE: Dollar amounts shown have **not** been adjusted for inflation.)

#### Cost per Capita

Cost Per Capita shows the contract cost for police services divided by SeaTac's population (for example: year 2001 contract cost (\$5,560,036) divided by year 2001 population (25,380) = \$219.07). (The year 2000 U.S. Census data was used for the year 2001 calculations shown below. For years prior to 2000, population estimates based on the 1990 U.S. Census data were used.)

**Cost Per Capita**



# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

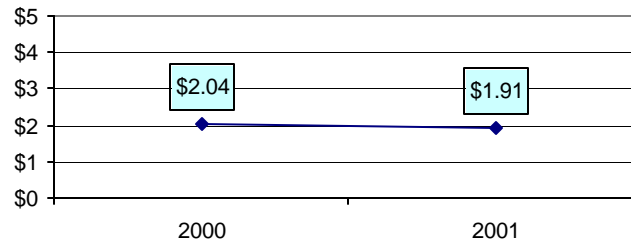
### **Costs of Services, continued**

#### Cost per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value

Cost Per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value shows SeaTac's contract cost in relationship to the property values (a.k.a. primary revenue source) of SeaTac.

#### **Cost Per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value**

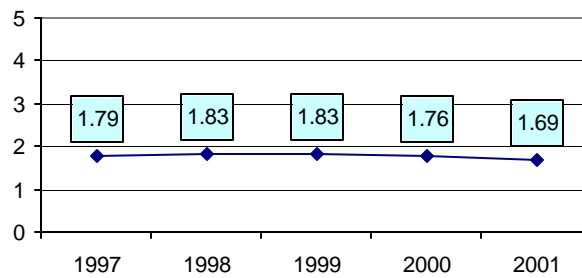
Data unavailable prior to 2000



#### Commissioned Officers per 1,000 Residents

Commissioned Officers Per 1,000 Residents shows how many commissioned police officers are employed by SeaTac for every 1,000 residents. This number includes commissioned officers who work in supervisory or other non-patrol related positions as well as any special services officers who work part-time for the city, but does not include professional (i.e. non-police) support staff.

#### **Commissioned Officers Per 1,000 Residents**





# City of SeaTac Police

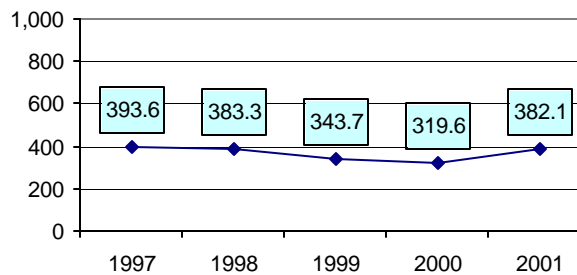
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2001*

### Costs of Services, continued

#### Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) per Patrol Officer

Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) Per Patrol Officer gives a picture of the average number of dispatched calls one patrol officer responds to within a year. This number only uses dispatched calls SeaTac pays for and does not include the number of responses an officer initiates (such as witnessing and responding to traffic violations). Also, the numbers below are **patrol only** and exclude non-patrol commissioned officers (such as supervisors or special duty officers/detectives).

**Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS)  
Per Patrol Officer**



## Glossary

Adult Arrests: An arrest is counted every time an adult is cited for a criminal offense or is booked. More specifically:

1. It includes all adult bookings, plus
2. All adult citations that are classified as criminal non-traffic.
3. When an adult is both cited and booked, it is counted only once.

CAD: See "Computer Aided Dispatch" below.

Cases Cleared/Clearance: This refers to the solving of an offense by arrest or, in some circumstances, by exceptional means (e.g., the suspect died, is imprisoned on another charge, victim refuses to testify, etc.).

Cleared by Arrest: This is a case that is closed by identifying at least one suspect and charges against that suspect(s) are recommended to the Prosecuting Attorney. Although called "cleared by *arrest*" this closure does not require physical booking into a jail or juvenile detention facility. It also does not require the charging of all suspects if/when there are multiple suspects involved in a crime. This category includes criminal citations into district and municipal courts for misdemeanors, felony filings into Superior Court, and all filings into Juvenile Court.

Other clearance codes:

1. "Cleared Exceptional" refers to a case in which a crime and a suspect involved in the crime have both been confirmed but due to circumstances outside the control of law enforcement, charges are not being recommended to the Prosecuting Attorney. (One example of this is when the suspect is already being charged for the crime by another police jurisdiction.)
2. "Cleared Unfounded" refers to a case in which it is discovered that the reported incident was either not true or was not a crime.
3. "Cleared Administrative" refers to an incident found to be non-criminal in nature, but which requires some police action to close the incident (e.g., handling of lost and found property).
4. "Cleared Inactive" refers to cases in which all investigative leads have been exhausted (or none existed) and the case cannot be closed by any other clearance classifications.

Citation: Often called a "ticket," a citation is a written document issued to a citizen who commits a crime or violates a law. The citation describes the crime and/or the law that has been violated and identifies the punishment that has been standardized by the court system (i.e., the standardized monetary amounts payable for traffic violations). While citations prescribe a penalty for a crime, they may be challenged through the court system. They usually include instructions for the cited citizen to appeal the citation.

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD): A computerized communication system used by emergency response agencies for dispatching and tracking calls for emergency assistance.

Domestic Violence: Domestic violence is a subcategory of other crimes. Virtually any crime can be sub-classified as domestic violence. In the State of Washington, domestic violence is defined as a crime of violence against the person or property of a spouse, former spouse, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who have a child in common, former/current

roommates, persons who have or had a dating relationship, and persons related to the suspect by the parent-child (biological or legal) relationship. In some cases, the age of the victim or suspect may determine whether or not the legal definition above is met.

Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS): Dispatched calls for service are calls received in the Communications Center and to which one or more patrol cars are dispatched. For information about "Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS)" see the Data Sources section of this report.

Felony: Felony crimes are more serious in terms of either harm or loss to persons or property than misdemeanors, and usually are punished by more restrictive methods than citations. Felonies have subclasses (A, B and C) that are based on the extent of harm to a person or the dollar value of loss or damage to property.

Identifier Codes for Priority of Dispatched Police Calls: The Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems used by 9-1-1 Centers use a system of codes to identify the types of calls to which police are being dispatched. Along with categorizing the type of incident the codes also assign the call a priority level based on the urgency required for the police response. The following are the priority levels used by the Communications (9-1-1) Center for the various types of police calls:

- Priority 0 (9-1-1 Dispatch): This code is used when a dispatcher sends a police unit to an incident based on the location, name and phone number information automatically generated by the 9-1-1 CAD system based on the origin of the call. This may be necessary when a caller is unable (for whatever reasons) to give the information or gives minimal information before the call is somehow terminated. Open phone lines and disconnected lines to which a call-receiver is unable to re-contact the caller are also examples of Priority 0 calls.
- Priority X (Critical Dispatch): This code is used for incidents that pose an obvious danger to the life of an officer or citizen. Examples are felony crimes in progress, "help the officer" situations, shootings, stabbings, in-progress robberies and in-progress burglaries where the possibility of a confrontation between a victim and a suspect exists.
- Priority 1 (Immediate Dispatch): This code is used for incidents requiring immediate police action. Examples are silent alarms at banks or businesses, silent residential alarms, injury accidents, major disturbances with weapons involved, in-progress burglaries of unoccupied structures, and other types of crimes in-progress (or which have just occurred) where a suspect may still be in the immediate area.
- Priority 2 (Prompt Dispatch): This code is used for events that involve situations that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples are verbal disturbances, audible residential or audible commercial alarms and blocking accidents, and incidents of shoplifters in custody who are not causing a problem.
- Priority 3 (Routine Dispatch): This code is used for low priority incidents in which time is not the critical factor in the proper handling of the call. Examples are burglaries or larcenies that are not in progress, "cold" vehicle thefts and abandoned vehicle calls.
- Priority 4 (Dispatch as available): This code is used for special circumstances or "seasonal" calls. Examples are reports of snowball throwing during winter months or firecracker complaints around July 4th.

Misdemeanor: Crimes that inflict harm or loss but to a lesser extent than a felony (e.g., assault fourth degree or simple assault). Misdemeanors usually are punished through monetary payment via a citation and/or other restrictions (such as restraining orders or no trespass orders).

Part I Crimes: This is a category of crimes established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It includes criminal homicide (which includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter; but excludes deaths by negligence, attempts to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, justifiable homicide, and traffic fatalities), forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Part I Crimes Against Persons: These crimes are also referred to as "violent crimes." They consist of criminal homicide (as defined above), forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Part I Crimes Against Property: These are burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Part II Crimes: This is a category of crimes consisting of all other crimes not included in the Part I Crimes category. Part II crimes vary due to differences in local laws, but typically include one or more of the following crimes: all other assaults (simple), forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property (buying, receiving and/or possessing), vandalism, weapons (carrying, possessing, etc.), prostitution and commercialized vice, sex offenses (including statutory rape, indecent exposure, etc. but excluding forcible rape, prostitution and commercialized vice), drug violations, gambling, offenses against families and children, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, liquor violations, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, and others.

## Data Sources

The data compiled in this report was collected from the following sources and, as such, is subject to the data standards and limitations of the source agency:

- City of SeaTac Police (information regarding: crime prevention activities, problem solving projects and public communication and education efforts)
- Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS) are the incidents that originate with a phone call to the 9-1-1 Center requesting a police response (either emergency or non-emergency). The totals shown in this report are limited to the DCFS calls that the city is charged for as part of their contract. Actual DCFS counts may be slightly (usually less than 5%) higher. This data is reported via the King County Sheriff's Office Communications Center Section, Research, Planning and Information Services Unit and Contracting Unit.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) annual statistical report *Crime in the United States: 2000*
- Washington State Office of Financial Management (demographic information)
- King County Sheriff's Office:
  - Annual Statistical Reports
  - Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system reports
  - Internal Investigations Unit statistical reports
  - Interlocal Agreements - Exhibit Bs (contract cost and staffing information)
- King County Tax Assessor's Office (real property values)
- Washington State Courts, Courts of Limited Jurisdiction annual caseload reports (traffic citation information); available on the Internet at: [www.courts.wa.gov/caseload](http://www.courts.wa.gov/caseload)

## Improved Data

One of the functions of a Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report is to highlight data collection and reporting methods that may need modification. Since the first annual report was published in 2001, the research and publishing staff have identified several ways to improve the data presented in these reports. Many improvements were implemented for this second annual report; therefore data presented in the 2001 report may differ somewhat from data presented in the 2000 report.